

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 8575

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, SY
SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON ALLEGED LEADER OF RECENT
COUP ATTEMPT IN SYRIA

REF: A. DAMASCUS 8542, B. DAMASCUS 8572

1. SYRIAN SOURCE TOLD US (REF B) THAT REPORTED LEADER OF
UNSECCESFUL COUP ATTEMPT AGAINST ASAD REGIME, RAIQ NAQQRI,
HAD PUBLISHED SOME OF HIS IDEAS IN SYRIAN MILITARY MAGAZINE
JAYSH AL-SHA'B (PEOPLE'S ARMY). RESERARCH BY EMBOFFS HAS
TURNED UP INTERVIEW WITH RAIQ ALI AL-NAQQRI IN JULY 29,
1975 ISSUE. ARTICLE NOTES THAT NAQQRI HAD AUTHORED TWO
NEW BOOKS RELEASED PREVIOUS WEEK, ONE ENTITLED "THE VITAL
LAW OF THE UNIVERSE, A REFUTATION AND SUBSTITUTE FOR
DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM AND IDEALISTIC SLAVERY," AND THE
SECOND ENTITLED "VITAL THEORY IN KNOWLEDGE: REFUTATION
AND SUBSTITUTE FOR THE THEORY OF INTELLECT IN DIALECTICAL
MATERIALISM AND IDEALISM." OTHER BOOKS BY NAQQRI LISTED
IN ARTICLE INCLUDE "THE HUMAN BEING: A FORM," "IDETITY
OF ARAB NATIONALISM," "THE VITAL CONCEPTION OF THE
NATIONAL QUESTION," AND "IDENTITY OF ZIONIST NATIONALISM."

2. INTERVIEWER OBSERVED THAT, WITH PUBLICATION OF TWO
MOST RECENT BOOKDS, "NUMBER OF BOOKS PRESENTED BY AUTHOR
IN SERIES OF ESSENTIAL IDEOLOGY INCREASED TO SIX. IT
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IS WELL KNOWN THAT RESEARCHER NAQQRI IS ALSO ACTIVE IN

ARTS AND LETTERS, IN ADDITION TO HIS INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITY AND HIS BEING A FIGHTER IN THE SYRIAN ARMY." HIS ANSWERS TO INTERVIEWER'S QUESTIONS IN FIRST HALF OF INTERVIEW REVEAL HIS BENT FOR METAPHYSICS. SAMPLE: "THE VITAL LAW OF THE UNIVERSE IS THE LAW STUDYING ALL PHENOMENA WITHING FIVE ITEMS, NAMELY (A) THE UNIVERSE IS A FORM, (B) THE UNIVERSE IS A MOTION, (C) THE UNIVERSE IS VITAL, (D) THE UNIVERSE IS POTENTIAL, (E) THE UNIVERSE IS COMPARATIVE. I CONSIDER VITALISM AND MATERIALISM IN ONE LINE AGAINST IDEALISM; CONSEQUENTLY, DIALOGUE WITH MATERIALISM IS MORE USEFUL PROVIDED PROVIDED MATERIALISM IS NOT IDEALISM IN A NEW FORM."

3. SECOND HALF OF INTERVIEW IS PERHAPS MORE REVEALING. ASKED ABOUT HIS FUTURE PROJECTS, HE REPLIES THAT, "I WILL PUBLISH THE BOOK TITLED, 'THE VITAL LAW OF SOCIETY: EVIDENCE OF FREEDOM.' IN THIS BOOK I WILL DEMONSTRATE THAT THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CIRISIS OF ARAB SOCIETY LIES IN THE BUILDING OF FIGHTING SOCIALIST NATIONAL LABORATORIES." PICKING UP IDEA OF "FIGHTING SOCIALIST NATIONAL LABORATORIES," INTERVIEWER THEN NOTES NAQQRI IS SOCIALIST AND ASKS "HOW DO YOU JUSTIFY YOUR ATTEMPT TO REFUTE DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM AND LET SOCIALISM SURVIVE?" HIS RESPONSE: "VERY SIMPLE. SOCIALISM IS SOMETHING AND DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM IS SOMETHING ELSE. SOCIALISM IS A SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEM LEADING TO REMOVAL OF EXPLOITATION. THE PERSON WHO DOES NOT BELIEVE IN IT STANDS FOR EXPLOITATION. AS TO DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM, IT IS A DIALECTICAL MATERIAL VIEW TOWARD THE UNIVERSE AND HISTORY. ORIGINALLY MARX DID NOT WRITE DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM. STALIN WROTE IT. ALL KNOW THAT STALIN (HINDERED THE DEVELOPMENT) OF THE MARXIST CONCEPT. MOST MARXISTS ADMIT IT." NAQQRI ADMITTED THAT HIS THEORY HAD AROUSED SKEPTICISM ON PART OF COLLEAGUES.

4. COMMENT: IT IS DIFFICULT TO REJECT SYRIAN SOURCE'S CONCLUSION REF B THAT NAQQRI'S IDEAS WERE SOMEWHAT "HALF-BAKED." IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT THIS IS ONE TIME AN ARABIC TREATISE DID NOT SUFFER IN TRANSLATION. AT BEST, NAQQRI EMERGES FROM OUR READING OF THIS INTERVIEW AS IDEALISTIC YOUNG

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MILITARY OFFICER WHO BELIEVES HE IS SOLIDLY GROUNDED IN SOCIALIST THEORY AND HAS TRIED TO PROPAGATE HIS OWN MODIFICATIONS TO EXISTING CONCEPTUAL THEORY. FACT THAT HE WAS A KNOWN PROMOTER OF IDEAS WHICH PROBABLY MADE LITTLE SENSE TO MANY OF HIS COLLEAGUES MAY HAVE ALLOWED HIM TO MEET WITH FELLOW CONSPIRATORS WITHOUT ATTRACTING SERIOUS ATTENTION OF SECURITY SERVICES. FROM TWO PHOTOS ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE, WE STIMATE NAQQRI'S AGE AT LATE TWENTIES, EARLY THIRTIES.

5. COPIES OF ARTICLE AND EMBASSY TRANSLATION BEING
POUCHED DEPT.
MURPHY

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